2009 Annual Alberta Regional Labour Market Review

Wood Buffalo–Cold Lake • Athabasca–Grande Prairie–Peace River
Edmonton • Red Deer • Banff–Jasper–Rocky Mountain House
Calgary • Camrose–Drumheller • Lethbridge–Medicine Hat

Government of Alberta

Alberta
Freedom To Create. Spirit To Achieve.

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Alberta: Overview

Figure 1
Labour Force Statistics, Canada and Provinces, 2009
Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

	Participation Rate (%)	Employment Rate (%)	Unemployment Rate (%)
Canada	67.3%	61.7%	8.3%
Newfoundland and Labrador	59.3%	50.1%	15.5%
Prince Edward Island	68.1%	59.9%	12.0%
Nova Scotia	64.6%	58.6%	9.2%
New Brunswick	64.7%	59.0%	8.9%
Quebec	65.2%	59.7%	8.5%
Ontario	67.3%	61.2%	9.0%
Manitoba	69.4%	65.8%	5.2%
Saskatchewan	70.2%	66.8%	4.8%
Alberta	**74.3%**	**69.4%**	**6.6%**
British Columbia	66.0%	61.0%	7.6%

In 2009, Alberta had the highest employment rate and participation rate (see Glossary of Definitions, p. 22) in Canada. The employment rate in Alberta of 69.4% was 7.7 percentage points higher than the national average.

Alberta's participation rate was 7.0 percentage points higher than the Canadian average. Figure 1 shows that Alberta's unemployment rate of 6.6% was lower than the national average at 8.3%. At 4.8%, Saskatchewan had the lowest unemployment rate in the country followed by Manitoba with 5.2%.

Alberta: Overview

Alberta's labour force grew by 39,700 people between 2008 and 2009. The labour force in the Athabasca–Grande Prairie–Peace River region saw the largest per cent increase of 2.8%, while the Calgary region had the largest gain in number, adding 17,900 people. The Edmonton and Calgary regions together had over 70% of Alberta's labour force. In 2009, the size of the labour force decreased in two economic regions: Wood Buffalo–Cold Lake region saw a decline of 200; and Camrose–Drumheller region's labour force fell by 2,800.

In 2009, employment in Alberta declined by 25,200 from the previous year to 1,988,100. Employment declined in every region except in the Banff–Jasper–Rocky Mountain House region where employment was unchanged. Of those regions that experienced employment loss, the Camrose-Drumheller region had the largest per cent loss at 5.1% while the Edmonton region had the largest loss in number, declining by 5,900.

Figure 2

Labour Force, Alberta's Economic Regions, 2008 and 2009

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

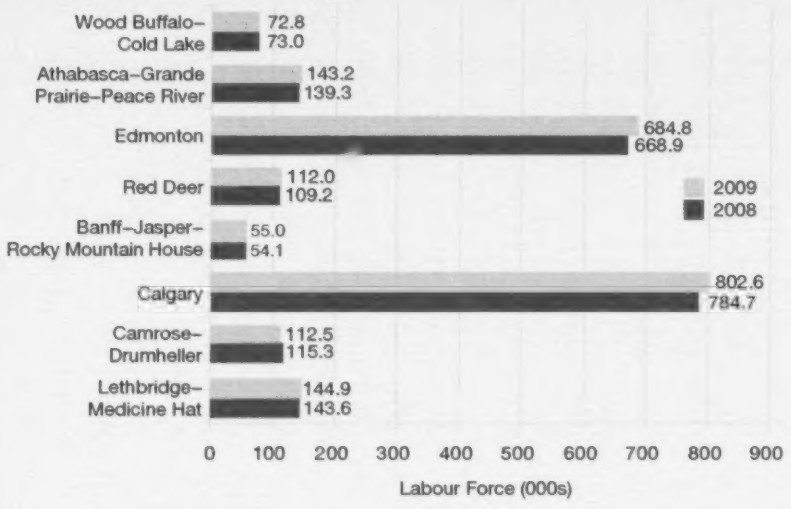


Figure 3

Employment, Alberta's Economic Regions, 2008 and 2009

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

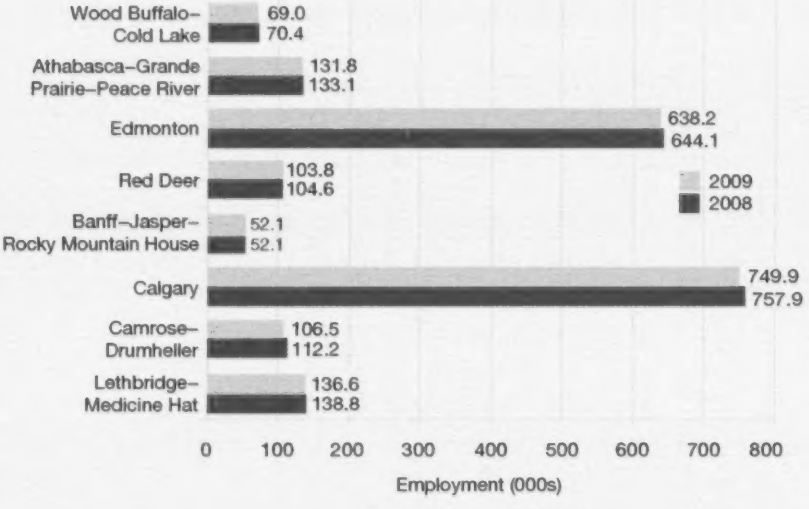


Figure 4

Unemployment, Alberta's Economic Regions, 2008 and 2009

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

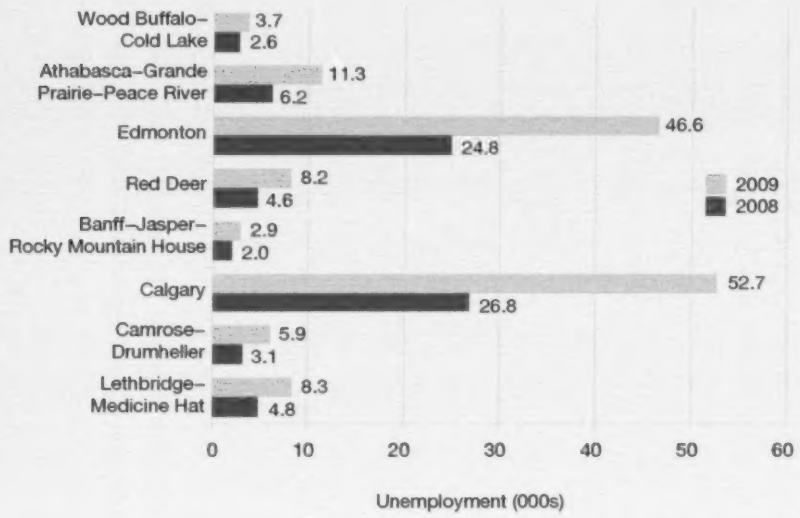


Figure 5

Unemployment Rate, Alberta's Economic Regions, 2008 and 2009

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

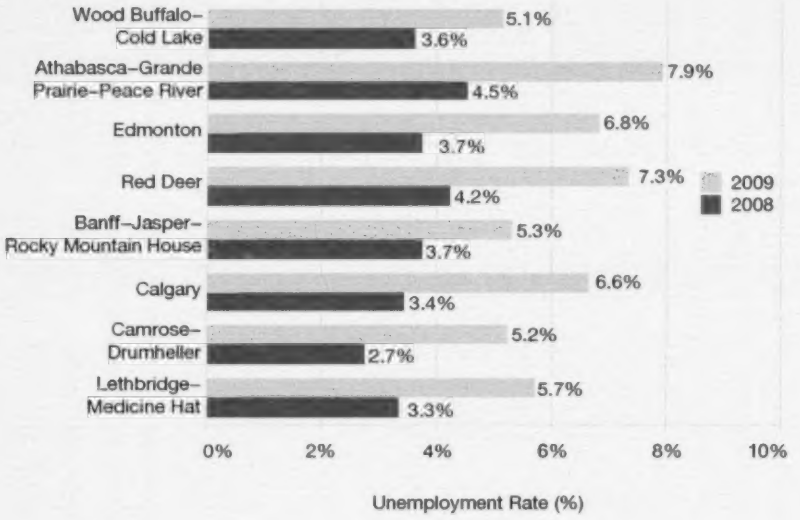


Figure 4 shows that unemployment rose in all regions in the province. The smallest increase in unemployment, 900, was in the Banff–Jasper–Rocky Mountain House region. The Calgary region saw the largest increase in unemployment with over 25,900.

Alberta's unemployment rate rose from 3.6% in 2008 to 6.6% in 2009. Unemployment rates rose across all regions as well, staying largely above 5.0%.

The Athabasca–Grande Prairie–Peace River region had the highest unemployment rate in 2008 and in 2009; the unemployment rate rose from 4.5% to 7.6% between these two years (See Figure 5). In 2009, the Wood Buffalo–Cold Lake region had the lowest unemployment rate, at 5.1%. The Athabasca–Grande Prairie–Peace River region experienced the largest increase in the unemployment rate, rising 3.4 percentage points to 7.9%. The Calgary region experienced the next largest increase in the unemployment rate, rising 3.1 percentage points to 6.6%. The Camrose–Drumheller region which had the lowest unemployment rate in 2008 at 2.7% had the second lowest unemployment rate in 2009, at 5.2%.

Wood Buffalo–Cold Lake
Economic Region

Employment and Unemployment

Between 2008 and 2009, the working-age population in the Wood Buffalo–Cold Lake region grew by 2.3%, but the region's labour force declined because of lower employment. Employment in the region dropped 2.0% in 2009 compared to a year ago. The participation rate declined to 76.7% in 2009 but remained the second highest in the province. Unemployment in the region increased 42.3%, from 2,600 people in 2008 to 3,700 people in 2009.

The unemployment rate in the Wood Buffalo–Cold Lake region began with a slow ascent in April 2008 from 2.7% to a high of 4.1% near the end of the year. In February 2009 the unemployment rate rose once again and reached a peak of 6.8% in April 2009. By November 2009, the region's unemployment rate had fallen back to 4.0%.

The 2009 annual unemployment rate for the Wood Buffalo–Cold Lake region was 5.1%, making it the lowest of all the regions in Alberta.

Figure 6

Wood Buffalo—Cold Lake Economic Region, Labour Force Statistics

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

	2008	2009	Change
Working Age Population (000s)	92.8	94.9	2.3%
Labour Force (000s)	73.0	72.8	-0.3%
Employment (000s)	70.4	69.0	-2.0%
Unemployment (000s)	2.6	3.7	42.3%
Unemployment Rate	3.6%	5.1%	

Figure 7

Wood Buffalo—Cold Lake Economic Region, Unemployment Rate 2008–2009

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey
Unadjusted 3-Month Moving Average

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	3.4%	3.2%	3.0%	2.7%	3.1%	3.3%	3.7%	3.9%	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	3.8%
2009	4.0%	4.6%	5.9%	6.8%	6.6%	6.0%	5.4%	5.3%	4.6%	4.4%	4.0%	4.0%

Figure 8

Wood Buffalo—Cold Lake Economic Region, Employment Statistics

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Industry*	2008	2009	Change from 2008
Agriculture	2500	2300	-200
Accommodation and Food Services	3000	3800	800
Business, Building and Other Support Services	2300	2000	-300
Construction	8600	6900	-1700
Educational Services	4000	4800	800
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	3000	2400	-600
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	16300	16700	400
Health Care and Social Assistance	5300	5000	-300
Information, Culture and Recreation	1900	**	**
Manufacturing	1700	1700	0
Other Services[1]	3200	3800	600
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	2500	2600	100
Public Administration	2500	2900	400
Trade	8900	8800	-100
Transportation and Warehousing	3900	3600	-300
Utilities	**	**	**

* *Industries classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)*

** *Insufficient data*

[1] *This sector comprises establishments, not classified to any other sector, primarily engaged in repairing, or performing general or routine maintenance, on motor vehicles, machinery, equipment, and other products to ensure that they work efficiently; providing personal care services, funeral services, laundry services, and other services to individuals, such as pet care services and photo finishing services; organizing and promoting religious activities; supporting various causes through grant-making, advocating (promoting) various social and political causes, and promoting and defending the interests of their members. Private households are also included.*

Figure 8 shows the change in industry employment between 2008 and 2009. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries decreased by 1,700 in 2009, while employment in the Services-Producing industries increased by 300. The industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Accommodation and Food Services, up 800; Educational Services, up 800; and Other Services, up 600. The industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Construction, down 1,700; and Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Leasing, down 600.

- In 2009, the region had the lowest year-over-year increase in unemployment at 42.3%, from 2,600 in 2008 to 3,700 in 2009.
- The region's unemployment rate of 5.1% was the lowest in the province.
- The industries tied with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were Accommodation and Food Services and Educational Services.

Athabasca–Grande Prairie –Peace River

Economic Region

Employment and Unemployment

In 2009, the Athabasca–Grande Prairie–Peace River region's labour force increased by 2.8%, or 3,900 people. While employment decreased by 1.0%, unemployment increased by 82.3%, or 5,100 people. During this period, the region's unemployment rate increased 3.4 percentage points to 7.9%. In 2009, the participation rate increased to 75.1% from 74.7% in 2008.

Figure 10 displays the unadjusted monthly unemployment rates for the Athabasca–Grande Prairie–Peace River region in 2008 and 2009. The unemployment rate remained relatively stable during 2008 and did not start rising until January 2009. In 2009, the unemployment rate peaked at 9.1% in September and October.

The 2009 annual unemployment rate for the Athabasca–Grande Prairie–Peace River region was 7.9%, making it the highest of all the regions in Alberta.

Figure 9

Athabasca—Grande Prairie—Peace River Economic Region, Labour Force Statistics

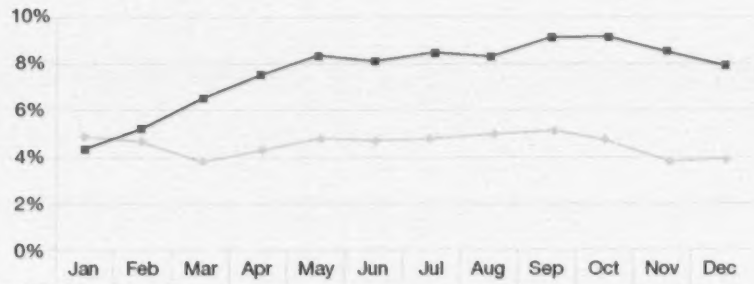
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

	2008	2009	Change
Working Age Population (000s)	186.4	190.6	2.3%
Labour Force (000s)	139.3	143.2	2.8%
Employment (000s)	133.1	131.8	-1.0%
Unemployment (000s)	6.2	11.3	82.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.5%	7.9%	

Figure 10

Athabasca—Grande Prairie—Peace River Economic Region, Unemployment Rate 2008–2009

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey
Unadjusted 3-Month Moving Average



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	4.9%	4.7%	4.1%	4.3%	4.8%	4.7%	4.8%	5.0%	5.1%	4.7%	3.8%	3.9%
2009	4.3%	5.5%	6.5%	7.5%	8.3%	8.1%	8.4%	8.3%	9.1%	9.1%	8.5%	7.9%

Figure 11

Athabasca—Grande Prairie—Peace River Economic Region, Employment Statistics

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Industry*	2008	2009	Change from 2008
Agriculture	6100	6500	400
Accommodation and Food Services	8600	8400	-200
Business, Building and Other Support Services	3000	3100	100
Construction	13200	13100	-100
Educational Services	7600	8800	1200
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	4700	5900	1200
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	17000	14700	-2300
Health Care and Social Assistance	12900	12600	-300
Information, Culture and Recreation	3200	2900	-300
Manufacturing	8700	7600	-1100
Other Services	6300	8900	2600
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	4900	5300	400
Public Administration	3400	3700	300
Trade	22300	20900	-1400
Transportation and Warehousing	9900	8500	-1400
Utilities	**	**	**

** Industries classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)*

*** Insufficient data*

Figure 11 shows the change in industry employment between 2008 and 2009. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries decreased by 3,300 in 2009, while employment in the Services-Producing industries increased by 2,100. The industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Other Services, up 2,600; Educational Services, up 1,200; and Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Leasing, up 1,200. The industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas, down 2,300; Trade, down 1,400; and Transportation and Warehousing, down 1,400.

- In 2009, employment decreased by 1.0%, from 133,100 in 2008 to 131,800 in 2009.
- The region's unemployment rate of 7.9% was the highest in the province.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Other Services[1].

Edmonton
Economic Region

Employment and Unemployment

The Edmonton region's labour force increased by 2.4%, from 917,400 people in 2008 to 939,900 people in 2009. In 2009, the participation rate was 72.9%, the third lowest of all the regions in Alberta. Between 2008 and 2009, employment decreased by 0.9% or 5,900 people. In 2009, unemployment in the Edmonton region increased by 87.9% or 21,800 people. In addition, the unemployment rate rose 3.1 percentage points to 6.8%.

Figure 13 displays the unadjusted monthly unemployment rates for the Edmonton region in 2008 and 2009. After remaining relatively stable in 2008, Edmonton's unemployment rate began to rise quickly in January 2009, peaking at 7.8% in October.

The 2009 annual unemployment rate for the Edmonton region was 6.8%, the third highest of all the regions in Alberta.

Figure 12
Edmonton Economic Region, Labour Force Statistics
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

	2008	2009	Change
Working Age Population (000s)	917.4	939.9	2.5%
Labour Force (000s)	668.9	684.8	2.4%
Employment (000s)	644.1	638.2	-0.9%
Unemployment (000s)	24.8	46.6	87.9%
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	6.8%	

Figure 13
Edmonton Economic Region, Unemployment Rate 2008–2009
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey
Unadjusted 3-Month Moving Average

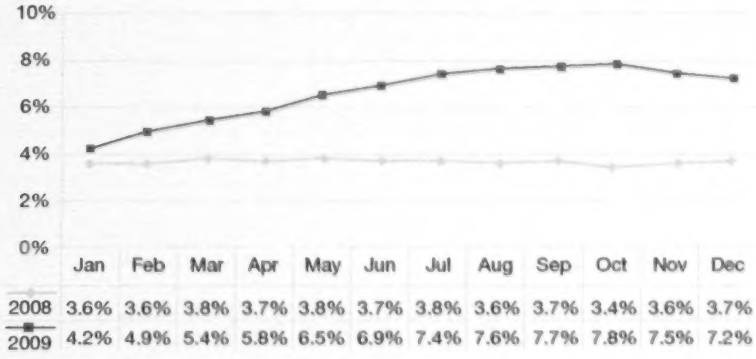


Figure 14

Edmonton Economic Region, Employment Statistics

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Industry*	2008	2009	Change from 2008
Agriculture	4000	6400	2400
Accommodation and Food Services	32200	39300	7100
Business, Building and Other Support Services	19800	21700	1900
Construction	68700	59500	-9200
Educational Services	50300	48700	-1600
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	35400	36500	1100
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	21400	21700	300
Health Care and Social Assistance	64300	68200	3900
Information, Culture and Recreation	25500	29100	3600
Manufacturing	50700	43600	-7100
Other Services	30300	29700	-600
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	51000	46000	-5000
Public Administration	35400	42700	7300
Trade	114500	107800	-6700
Transportation and Warehousing	34500	30600	-3900
Utilities	6200	6700	500

** Industries classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)*

Figure 14 shows the change in industry employment between 2008 and 2009 in the Edmonton region. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries decreased by 13,100 in 2009, while employment in the Services-Producing industries increased by 7,100. The industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Public Administration, up 7,300; Accommodation and Food Services, up 7,100; and Health Care and Social Assistance, up 3,900. The industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Construction, down 9,200; Manufacturing, down 7,100; and Trade, down 6,700.

- In 2009, unemployment increased 87.9%, from 24,800 in 2008 to 46,600 in 2009.
- The unemployment rate of 6.8% was the third highest in the province.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Public Administration.

Red Deer
Economic Region

Employment and Unemployment

The Red Deer region's labour force increased by 2.6%, from 146,200 in 2008 to 150,700 in 2009. The participation rate was 74.3%, the fourth lowest of all the regions in Alberta. In 2009, employment decreased by 0.8% while unemployment rose 78.3%. In 2009, Red Deer's unemployment rate increased by 3.1 percentage points to 7.3%.

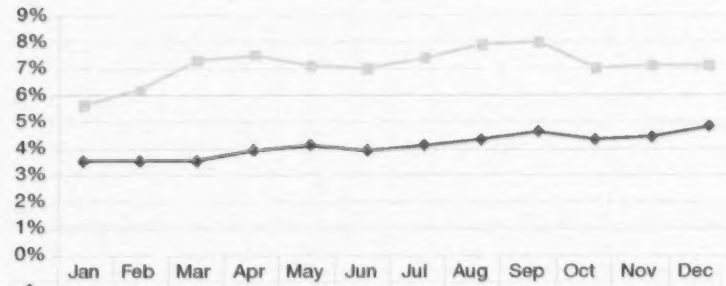
Figure 16 displays the unadjusted monthly unemployment rates for the Red Deer region in 2008 and 2009. Red Deer's unemployment rate increased slowly and steadily in 2008, peaking in December at 4.8% that year. In 2009, it continued to rise at a faster pace than in 2008, and peaked in September at 8.0%.

The 2009 annual unemployment rate for the Red Deer region was 7.3%, the second highest of all the regions in Alberta.

Figure 15
Red Deer Economic Region, Labour Force Statistics
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

	2008	2009	Change
Working Age Population (000s)	146.2	150.7	3.1%
Labour Force (000s)	109.2	112.0	2.6%
Employment (000s)	104.6	103.8	-0.8%
Unemployment (000s)	4.6	8.2	78.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.2%	7.3%	

Figure 16
Red Deer Economic Region, Unemployment Rate 2008–2009
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey
Unadjusted 3-Month Moving Average



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.9%	4.1%	3.9%	4.1%	4.3%	4.6%	4.3%	4.4%	4.8%
2009	5.6%	6.2%	7.3%	7.5%	7.1%	7.0%	7.4%	7.9%	8.0%	7.0%	7.1%	7.1%

Figure 17

Red Deer Economic Region, Employment Statistics

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Industry*	2008	2009	Change from 2008
Agriculture	7400	6200	-1200
Accommodation and Food Services	5900	6200	300
Business, Building and Other Support Services	2300	2700	400
Construction	10300	10700	400
Educational Services	4700	5500	800
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	4000	4900	900
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	10400	8500	-1900
Health Care and Social Assistance	12300	11300	-1000
Information, Culture and Recreation	1900	2800	900
Manufacturing	8300	6600	-1700
Other Services	5700	6500	800
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	5700	4500	-1200
Public Administration	3700	3900	200
Trade	16500	17900	1400
Transportation and Warehousing	4300	4400	100
Utilities	**	**	**

** Industries classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)*

*** Insufficient data*

Figure 17 shows the changes in industry employment between 2008 and 2009. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries decreased by 4,400 in 2009, while employment in the Services-Producing industries increased by 3,600. Industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Trade, up 1,400; Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Leasing, up 900; and Information, Culture, and Recreation, up 900. Industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas, down 1,900; Manufacturing, down 1,700; Agriculture, down 1,200; and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, down 1,200.

- In 2009, employment decreased by 0.8%, from 104,600 in 2008 to 103,800 in 2009.
- The unemployment rate of 7.3% was the second highest in the province.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Trade.

Banff–Jasper–Rocky Mountain House
Economic Region

Employment and Unemployment

In 2009, the labour force in the Banff–Jasper–Rocky Mountain House region increased by 1.7% while employment remained unchanged from the previous year. The participation rate of 79.0% was the highest in the province. Between 2008 and 2009, unemployment increased by 45.0% or 900 people. The region's unemployment rate increased 1.6 percentage points to 5.3%.

Figure 19 shows the unadjusted monthly unemployment rate for the Banff–Jasper–Rocky Mountain House region for 2008 and 2009. In 2008, the unemployment rate rose slightly, peaking at 4.3% in September and October. After declining towards the end of 2008, the unemployment rate rose again in 2009, peaking at 6.1% in May.

The 2009 annual unemployment rate for the Banff–Jasper–Rocky Mountain House region was 5.3%, the third lowest of all the regions in Alberta.

Figure 18
Banff—Jasper—Rocky Mountain House Economic Region, Labour Force Statistics
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

	2008	2009	Change
Working Age Population (000s)	68.5	69.6	1.6%
Labour Force (000s)	54.1	55.0	1.7%
Employment (000s)	52.1	52.1	0.0%
Unemployment (000s)	2.0	2.9	45.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	5.3%	

Figure 19
Banff—Jasper—Rocky Mountain House Economic Region, Unemployment Rate 2008–2009
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey
Unadjusted 3-Month Moving Average

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	**	2.8%	3.0%	3.0%	3.3%	3.7%	3.5%	3.9%	4.3%	4.3%	3.5%	3.5%
2009	4.0%	5.1%	5.3%	5.6%	6.1%	5.9%	5.9%	4.8%	4.4%	4.2%	5.0%	5.7%

** *Insufficient data*

Figure 20

Banff—Jasper—Rocky Mountain House Economic Region, Employment Statistics

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Industry*	2008	2009	Change from 2008
Agriculture	2300	1700	-600
Accommodation and Food Services	11200	11800	600
Business, Building and Other Support Services	1800	**	**
Construction	5600	4800	-800
Educational Services	2000	2000	0
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	1800	1900	100
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	5700	6000	300
Health Care and Social Assistance	3500	3200	-300
Information, Culture and Recreation	2200	1900	-300
Manufacturing	3200	2800	-400
Other Services	2100	2600	500
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	**	1800	**
Public Administration	**	1500	**
Trade	5900	6400	500
Transportation and Warehousing	2300	2400	100
Utilities	**	**	**

** Industries classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)*

*** Insufficient data*

Figure 20 shows the change in industry employment between 2008 and 2009. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries decreased by 1,400 compared to a year ago, while employment in Services-Producing industries increased by 1,400. The industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Accommodation and Food Services, up 600; Other Services, up 500; and Trade, up 500. The industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Construction, down 800; Agriculture, down 600; and Manufacturing, down 400.

- This was the only region that recorded no change in employment between 2008 and 2009.
- In 2009, the participation rate was the highest in the province at 79.0%.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Accommodation and Food Services.

Calgary
Economic Region

Employment and Unemployment

In 2009, Calgary's labour force increased by 2.3%, however, employment decreased by 1.1%, or 8,000 people. The region's participation rate remained high at 76.4%, the third highest of all the regions in the province. In 2009, unemployment increased by 96.6%, the largest percent change observed. In addition, Calgary's unemployment rate increased by 3.2 percentage points to 6.6%.

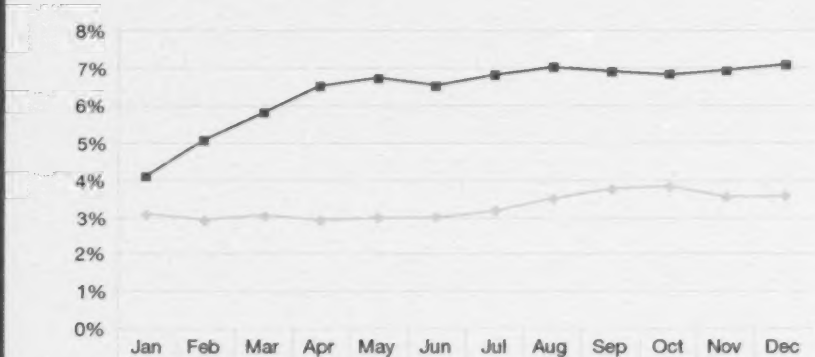
Figure 22 shows the unadjusted monthly unemployment rate for the Calgary region in 2008 and 2009. In 2008, the unemployment rate remained relatively stable for the first half of the year and then slowly rose in the last half. Following January 2009, the unemployment rate began to increase quickly, peaking in December at 7.1%.

The 2009 annual unemployment rate for the Calgary region was 6.6%, the fourth highest of all the regions in Alberta.

Figure 21
Calgary Economic Region, Labour Force Statistics
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

	2008	2009	Change
Working Age Population (000s)	1021.0	1050.4	2.9%
Labour Force (000s)	784.7	802.6	2.3%
Employment (000s)	757.9	749.9	-1.1%
Unemployment (000s)	26.8	52.7	96.6%
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	6.6%	

Figure 22
Calgary Economic Region, Unemployment Rate 2008–2009
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey
Unadjusted 3-Month Moving Average



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	3.1%	2.9%	3.0%	2.9%	3.0%	3.0%	3.2%	3.5%	3.8%	3.9%	3.6%	3.8%
2009	4.1%	5.1%	5.8%	6.4%	6.6%	6.4%	6.8%	7.0%	6.9%	6.8%	6.9%	7.1%

Figure 23

Calgary Economic Region, Employment Statistics

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Industry*	2008	2009	Change from 2008
Agriculture	14500	12600	-1900
Accommodation and Food Services	40800	42600	1800
Business, Building and Other Support Services	27000	29700	2700
Construction	75100	71300	-3800
Educational Services	40000	44100	4100
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	50000	48600	-1400
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	55800	49700	-6100
Health Care and Social Assistance	67200	70200	3000
Information, Culture and Recreation	31900	36200	4300
Manufacturing	53600	46300	-7300
Other Services	32200	36600	4400
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	90600	83000	-7600
Public Administration	26600	26200	-400
Trade	110100	102200	-7900
Transportation and Warehousing	36400	42200	5800
Utilities	5900	8200	2300

** Industries classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)*

Figure 23 shows the change in industry employment between 2008 and 2009. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries decreased by 16,800 compared to a year ago, while employment in the Services-Producing industries increased by 8,800. The industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Transportation and Warehousing, up 5,800; Other Services, up 4,400; and Information, Culture, and Recreation, up 4,300. The industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Trade, down 7,900; Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, down 7,600; and Manufacturing, down 7,300.

- In 2009, unemployment almost doubled, increasing from 26,800 in 2008 to 52,700 in 2009.
- The participation rate remained high at 76.4%, the third highest in the province.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Transportation and Warehousing.

Camrose–Drumheller
Economic Region

Employment and Unemployment

In 2009, the labour force in the Camrose–Drumheller region decreased by 2.4%, one of only two regions to see a decrease in the labour force. Employment decreased by 5.1%, or 5,700 people. The participation rate for this region was 71.9% in 2009, the second lowest in the province. Unemployment was up 90.3% or 2,800 people and the unemployment rate increased to 5.2%, up 2.5 percentage points from the previous year.

Figure 25 shows the unadjusted monthly unemployment rate for the Camrose–Drumheller region in 2008 and 2009. In 2008, the unemployment rate remained relatively stable, falling slightly near the middle of the year and rising a little near the end of the year. In March 2009, the unemployment rate for this region rose significantly, peaking at 6.6% in September 2009.

The 2009 annual unemployment rate for the Camrose–Drumheller region was 5.2%, the second lowest of all the regions in Alberta.

Figure 24
Camrose–Drumheller Economic Region, Labour Force Statistics
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

	2008	2009	Change
Working Age Population (000s)	155.4	156.4	0.6%
Labour Force (000s)	115.3	112.5	-2.4%
Employment (000s)	112.2	106.5	-5.1%
Unemployment (000s)	3.1	5.9	90.3%
Unemployment Rate	2.7%	5.2%	

Figure 25
Camrose–Drumheller Economic Region, Unemployment Rate 2008–2009
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey
Unadjusted 3-Month Moving Average

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	2.6%	2.6%	2.9%	2.7%	2.5%	2.3%	2.4%	2.5%	2.6%	2.6%	2.9%	3.0%
2009	3.1%	3.2%	3.8%	4.7%	5.6%	5.3%	5.6%	5.3%	6.6%	6.2%	6.2%	5.4%

Figure 26
Camrose–Drumheller Economic Region, Employment Statistics
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Industry*	2008	2009	Change from 2008
Agriculture	12300	11900	-400
Accommodation and Food Services	4700	4800	100
Business, Building and Other Support Services	3200	3200	0
Construction	10400	10000	-400
Educational Services	8100	6500	-1600
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	5300	4700	-600
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	12100	11300	-800
Health Care and Social Assistance	11200	10900	-300
Information, Culture and Recreation	2400	2900	500
Manufacturing	5800	4000	-1800
Other Services	5400	4500	-900
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	3200	3700	500
Public Administration	5100	3500	-1600
Trade	16400	18800	2400
Transportation and Warehousing	4800	4800	0
Utilities	1700	**	**

** Industries classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)*
*** Insufficient data*

Figure 26 shows the change in industry employment between 2008 and 2009. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries decreased by 3,900 compared to a year ago, while employment in the Services-Producing industries also decreased by 1,800. Industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Trade, up 2,400; Information, Culture, and Recreation, up 500; and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, up 500. Industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Manufacturing, down 1,800; Public Administration, down 1,600; and Educational Services, down 1,600.

- Unemployment increased 90.3%, from 3,100 in 2008 to 5,900 in 2009.
- The 2009 annual unemployment rate of 5.2% was the second lowest in the province.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Trade.

Lethbridge–Medicine Hat
Economic Region

Employment and Unemployment

In 2009, the Lethbridge–Medicine Hat region saw a 0.9% increase in the labour force, as well as a 1.6% decrease in employment. During this time, the participation rate was 68.3%, the lowest of all economic regions in the province. In 2009, unemployment increased by 72.9% and the unemployment rate increased 2.4 percentage points to 5.7%.

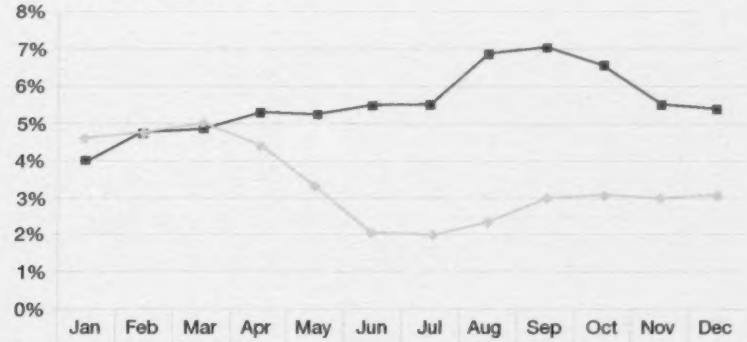
Figure 28 shows the unadjusted monthly unemployment rate for the Lethbridge–Medicine Hat region in 2008 and 2009. In 2008, unemployment rates in this region saw a high of 5.0% in March and a low of 2.0% in July. In 2009, the unemployment rate began to rise, peaking at 7.0% in September.

The 2009 annual unemployment rate for the Lethbridge–Medicine Hat region was 5.7%, the fourth lowest of all the regions in Alberta.

Figure 27
Lethbridge–Medicine Hat Economic Region, Labour Force Statistics
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

	2008	2009	Change
Working Age Population (000s)	209.0	212.2	1.5%
Labour Force (000s)	143.6	144.9	0.9%
Employment (000s)	138.8	136.6	-1.6%
Unemployment (000s)	4.8	8.3	72.9%
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	5.7%	

Figure 28
Lethbridge–Medicine Hat Economic Region, Unemployment Rate 2008–2009
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey
Unadjusted 3-Month Moving Average



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	4.6%	4.7%	5.0%	4.4%	3.4%	2.1%	2.0%	2.4%	3.0%	3.1%	3.0%	3.1%
2009	4.0%	4.7%	4.9%	5.3%	5.2%	5.5%	5.5%	6.9%	7.0%	6.6%	5.5%	5.4%

Figure 29

Lethbridge–Medicine Hat Economic Region, Employment Statistics

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Industry*	2008	2009	Change from 2008
Agriculture	11800	7600	-4200
Accommodation and Food Services	7400	9200	1800
Business, Building and Other Support Services	4500	3100	-1400
Construction	13400	15600	2200
Educational Services	10000	11500	1500
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	7400	4900	-2500
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	10400	10600	200
Health Care and Social Assistance	13500	16500	3000
Information, Culture and Recreation	2600	3100	500
Manufacturing	12100	10500	-1600
Other Services	6000	7600	1600
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	5000	4900	-100
Public Administration	5600	4800	-800
Trade	22500	18600	-3900
Transportation and Warehousing	6000	6700	700
Utilities	**	**	**

** Industries classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)*

*** Insufficient data*

Figure 29 shows the change in industry employment between 2008 and 2009. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries decreased by 2,600 compared to a year ago, while employment in the Services-Producing industries increased by 500. Industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Health Care and Social Assistance, up 3,000; Construction, up 2,200; and Accommodation and Food Services, up 1,800. Industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Agriculture, down 4,200; Trade, down 3,900; and Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Leasing, down 2,500.

- Employment decreased by 1.6%, from 138,800 in 2008 to 136,600 in 2009.
- In 2009, the participation rate of 68.3% was the lowest in the province.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Health Care and Social Assistance.

Glossary of Definitions

Employed People: People who, during the reference week:
(a) did any work for pay or for profit in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business or professional practice;
(b) were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of work, or any other reasons.

Employment Rate: Refers to the number of people employed during the reference week, expressed as a percentage of the total population 15 years of age and over.

Goods-Producing Industries: The following industries are included within this category: Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil, and Gas; Manufacturing; Agriculture; Construction; and Utilities.

Labour Force: Refers to people who were either employed or unemployed during the reference week.

Participation Rate: Refers to the labour force during the reference week, expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over.

Services-Producing Industries: The following industries are included within this category: Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Leasing; Transportation and Warehousing; Accommodation and Food Services; Other Services; Information, Culture, and Recreation; Business, Building, and Other Support Services; Public Administration; Health Care and Social Assistance; Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services; Trade (retail and wholesale); and Educational Services.

Working-Age Population: People 15 years of age and over except people living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions, and full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces.

Unemployed People: People who, during the reference week, were without paid work or without self-employment work, were available for work and either:
(a) had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks; or
(b) were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job; or
(c) had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

Unemployment Rate: Refers to the unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force during the reference week.

Call us or visit our website for more information or to find the following publications:

- *2009 Annual Alberta Labour Market Review*
- *Alberta Labour Force Statistics Highlights and Packages*
- *Alberta's Occupational Demand and Supply Outlook*
- *Alberta Wage and Salary Survey*

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